

10/576888

14920 Rec'd FGT/PTO 24 APR 2006

The Applicant has amended the description and drawings to ensure that all reference characters in the Figures are included in the description and vice versa. For example, the Applicant has amended page 7, line 29 to add reference character (3) next to the term "connection clamps". The Applicant has added reference character (2) next to the term "centerer" at page 8, lines 2 and 18 and page 9, line 22. The Applicant has amended page 9, lines 14, page 10, line 26, page 11, lines 27, 28 and 31 so that reference character (10) refers "cap wires". The Applicant has amended page 9, line 22 so that reference character (18) refers to "elongation" and reference character (19) refers to "deformation". The Applicant has amended page 10, lines 11, 12 and 15 so that the term "optical fiber" refers to reference character (17). The Applicant has amended page 11, lines 7 so that reference characters 22 and 23 refer to "strength" as shown in Figures 6c and 7a. The Applicant has amended page 10, line 11 to replace reference to Figure 8b by Figure 5a.

The Applicant has amended the claims to more fully and clearly describe and explain the invention claimed. All amendments made to the claims do not add subject matter to the present invention and are completely supported by the description as originally filed.

The Applicant has removed reference character 11 from Figure 3.

The Applicant encloses a black line version of the application indicating the changes made to the description and the claims. The Applicant also encloses a clean version of the application.

Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

**GOWLING LAFLEUR HENDERSON LLP**

**COPY**

Agents for Applicant

Emmanuel Manolakis  
Direct Dial (514) 392-9592  
EMM:KS  
Encls.